



"Davies, Richard"
<Richard.Davies@jetblue.com>

To: <airportEIR@longbeach.gov>
cc:
Subject: Support for LGB airport growth

11/14/2005 10:14 AM

As a JetBlue crewmember, I must admit that my opinion on LGB growth is somewhat jaded.

However, I think that expanding (or eliminating) the slots at Long Beach Airport would provide many pluses for the City of Long Beach in terms of increased revenue, from increased passenger counts provided by my employer, JetBlue Airways, or other airlines that currently do not have the opportunity to serve this fine airport. From a passenger perspective, LGB is a diamond in the rough. It provides efficient, easy and relatively delay-free travel into and out of the Long Beach area, which obviously includes all of the Southern Los Angeles area. Compared to LAX, Long Beach is simple and direct - our passengers love the airport and I know us crewmembers do too. Our recent expansion at BUR and ONT airports is at least partly a result of not being able to grow further at Long Beach.

I do understand the concerns about noise. I don't live under an airport approach path but I can imagine it is difficult for those that do. But modern aircraft are so much quieter than they were just a generation ago - the noise envelope being just a fraction of what it used to be. In fact, I can't imagine what it used to be like back in the heyday of aircraft manufacturing at Long Beach.... I'm sure it was much noisier then. The tradeoff for adding some extra flights is a significant tax advantage for Long Beach and I hope the city weighs the concerns of its citizens and business partners (such as JetBlue) carefully before making the right choice.

Sincerely,

Rich Davies
JetBlue Airways
Darien, CT Finance Dept.